Indiscipline in the Air India Staff

1467. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is rampant indiscipline in Air-India staff;

(b) whether it is also a fact that flight-deck duty norms have not been revised for a long time;

(c) whether as a result thereof Air India has become less competitive; and

(d) if so, what are the steps taken to improve the matters?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Flight Time and Flight Duty Time Limitations have not been changed since 1971 and because of this Air India has become less competitive.

(d) With a view to remain competitive, the flight and duty time limitation of flight crew has been increased through an administrative order, which has enabled operation of non-stop flights between Bombay/London and Delhi/London, with effect from 15-2-88.

Cancellation of Trains in Saurashtra and Gujarat

1468. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of trains that have been cancelled in Saurashtra and Gujarat in the last six months, what are the reasons for the same;

(b) whether the cancelled trains are proposed to be resumed, if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Bombay-Ahmedabad and some other sectors of Western Railway are the highest revenue earning sectors of Indian Railways; if not what are the five top sectors of Indian Railways which earn the highest revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Between September, 1987 and February, 1988, one pair of B.G., four pairs of M.G. and one pair of N.G. trains were cancelled due to water scarcity, heavy movement of foodgrains POL and drought relief materials, and other operational reasons.

(b) One pair each of B.G. and M.G. trains has been restored. Other trains will be restored/rationalised when the position improves. No time-frame has, however, been fixed.

(c) Statistics of earnings are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not route-wise.

Countries connected with the Indian Airlines Services

1469. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign countries which have been connected with Indian Airlines Services so far;

(b) whether Indian Airlines proposes to introduce its services to some more neighbouring countries in near future; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Indian Airlines operate to Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives, Singapore, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Thailand and Afghanistan.

(b) and (c) Bilateral air agreements concluded with UAE in 1986 and USSR, Kuwait & UK (Hongkong) in 1987, provide for designating two Indian Carriers.

Road Accidents involving DTC Buses in Delhi

1470. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of serious and fatal road accidents in Delhi, in which D.T.C. buses and vehicles were involved, during the last three years,

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to fit 'Speed governors' in D.T.C. buses so that they are not driven at more than a prescribed speed limit; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government and the D.T.C. management to reduce the high incidence of rash and negligent driving by D.T.C employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The information is as follows:—

Accident	1985		1986		1987	
	No. of accidents	%age	No. of accidents	%age	No. of accidents	%age
Minor	3285	82·84	4028	92·36	3307	91 91
Major	461	11·62	164	3.75	135	3·60
Fatal	220	55.4	170	3·89	162	4.49

(b) Speed governors have been fixed on the buses to ensure that they are not driven above 40 K.M. per hour. Stationary and mobile traffic supervisory staff have been put on the road to enforce road discipline and to ensure safety.

(c) Training, including refresher training, enforcement of speed limits, provision of speed governors in city route buses, incentives in the shape of cash awards and recognition of best drivers are some of the measures adopted by DTC to improve safety.

Teaching of Hindi in Forgien Countries

1471. SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindi is being taught in 100 foreign Universities in 30 countries;

(b) whether these Universities have demanded Hindi teachers from India to do teaching work there; and

(c) whether Government propose to form a panel of Hindi teachers for teaching Hindi in those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes. Hindi is being taught in 112 Universities in 38 countries.

(b) Yes. Some of the Universities do demand Hindi teachers from India for teaching of Hindi there.

(c) A panel of Hindi teahcers for appointment in Universities abroad is prepared by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations who keep on revising the panel from time to time.